

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1 1. (Original) An information system under affective control,
2 comprising:
3 an application program with which a user is actively engaged;
4 means for determining the apparent affective state of the user;
5 and
6 means for changing the operation of the application program
7 responsive to the apparent affective state of the user.

1 2. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein said means for determining the apparent
3 affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to at least
4 one of user autonomic indicators and the facial expressions of the
5 user.

1 3. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program comprises means of
3 user input.

1 4. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 3, wherein said means for determining the apparent
3 affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to at least
4 one of user input characteristics and input content.

1 5. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 3, wherein said user input is text.

1 6. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective
2 control as in claim 5, wherein said means for changing the operation
3 of the application program comprises means for marking text input
4 by the user if the apparent affective state of the user indicates that
5 the text input by the user should be marked.

1 7. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program is a program for
3 transmission to others of text composed by the user.

8. (Cancelled)

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method of processing text
2 indicating the emotional state of the writer at the time of writing,
3 comprising the steps of:
4 (a) accepting text input from the writer;
5 (b) determining the apparent emotional state of the writer;
6 (c) marking at least a portion of the text accepted from the
7 writer if the apparent emotional state of the writer indicates that the
8 text should be marked; and
9 (d) outputting marked text, thereby indicating the apparent
10 emotional state of the writer.

1 10. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in
2 claim 9, wherein said step of determining the apparent emotional
3 state of the writer is performed by monitoring at least one of the
4 writer's text input characteristics, text content, writer autonomic
5 indicators and the facial expressions of the writer.

1 11. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in
2 claim 9, wherein said step of accepting text input from the writer
3 comprises receiving text manually input by the writer into a text
4 input device and said step of determining the apparent emotional
5 state of the writer is performed at least in part by determining the
6 force used by the writer in manually inputting text into the input
7 device.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Previously Presented) An information system,
2 comprising:
3 an application program for engaging by a user;
4 means for monitoring factors relating to an emotional state of
5 the user; and
6 means for changing the operation of the application program
7 responsive to the emotional state of the user.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of text inputted into the application program by the
5 user.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

1 23. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 20 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of text inputted
3 includes means for monitoring appearance characteristics of the
4 inputted text indicating the emotional state of the user.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of creation of a document by the text inputted by the
5 user.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

1 29. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of the user as the user inputs text into the
5 application program.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 29 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of the user
3 includes means for monitoring a force exerted by the user on a
4 manual input device as the user inputs text.

31. (Cancelled)

Please add the following claims:

1 32. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises a manual input device capable of
4 measuring a degree of force applied by the user to the manual input
5 device.

1 33. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 32, wherein the manual input device comprises a keyboard
3 capable of measuring force applied by the user to a key on the
4 keyboard.

1 34. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 32, wherein the manual input device comprises a computer
3 mouse capable of measuring force applied by the user to a button on
4 the mouse.

1 35. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises means for analyzing aspects of speech of
4 the user.

1 36. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech
3 includes means for measuring the timing of utterance of the voice of
4 the user.

1 37. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech
3 includes means for measuring the quality of the voice of the user.

1 38. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech
3 includes means for measuring the utterance pitch contour of the
4 voice of the user.

1 39. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises means for measuring autonomic
4 responses of the user.

1 40. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring autonomic responses
3 of the user comprises means for measuring characteristics of the
4 skin of the user.

1 41. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring autonomic responses
3 of the user comprises means for measuring characteristics of the eye
4 of the user.

1 42. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring characteristics of the
3 eye of the user measures dilation of the eye of the user.

1 43. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring characteristics of the
3 eye of the user measures a rate at which the user blinks the eye.

1 44. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises means for analyzing facial expressions
4 of the user.

1 45. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 44, wherein the means for analyzing facial expressions of
3 the user comprises a video camera.

1 46. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises means for analyzing gestures of the user.

1 47. (New) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective
3 state of the user comprises means for detecting marking by the user
4 of text entered by the user.